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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 1 Feb. 1951

SUBJECT Establishment of Military Meteorological
Institute for Study of Influence of Weather
upon Asiatics

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. A military meteorological research institute known as "78 VU" (Vyskumny Ustav) has been established in Smilov southeast of Maehrisch Schoenberg, Czechoslovakia. This institute is housed in the last building on the outskirts of Smilov on the road leading west to Stelna,* and it is engaged in studying the influence of weather on Asiatics. Chinese and Mongolians have been imported for this purpose and they are now living in barracks camouflaged as sheds and warehouses for machinery. At the present time the barracks have a capacity for 700 persons between the ages of 16 and 40. The workers are put through severe drilling in addition to exceedingly arduous manual labor for the purpose of enabling the institute to make a most precise study on the influence of west (sic) European weather and climate upon Asiatics under the most difficult physical burdens.
2. The institute is under the supervision of the Research Department of the Czech Ministry of National Defense. This ministry is directly responsible to the Soviet Military Staff in Moscow and Kiev which is receiving the results of this research. Among the experts employed by the institute are the following:
 - a. Dr. Ottokar Ernica from Maehrisch Ostrau (Moravska Ostrava).
 - b. Dr. Friedrich Benthraut from Frankfurt a/d Oder.
 - c. Major Prokop Wodicka from the Frydek-Mistek garrison.
 - d. Major Juray Oszik, a Polish army officer.

* Comment: According to sheet No. 4159 of Map Series GSGS 4060, Smilov is located southeast of Maehrisch Sternberg (Sternberk) rather than of Maehrisch Schoenberg, and Stelna is undoubtedly intended to be Velka Strelna which lies south of Smilov.

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Approved For Release 2003/08/11 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000600200006-2

Document No. 6
No Change in Class
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Class Changed To: TS S C
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